

Avenue 280 Project – Engineering Consultant SOQ

March 27, 2015

Proposer Questions and Answers

1. The text of the RFQ indicates the road improvements will extend from Hwy 99 to Akers Street (within the City limits). However the Site Plan in the RFQ shows the improvements stopping at the City limits. Can you please provide clarification?

RESPONSE: THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT WILL EXTEND TO AKERS STREET.

2. In the form of contract, the professional liability insurance aggregate limit is \$4 million. This is a higher than typical limit. Will the more typical aggregate of \$2 million suffice? If not, the endorsement for the increased coverage will likely cost several thousand dollars per year.

RESPONSE: PER THE INSTRUCTIONS IN THE RFQ (SEE PAGE 11), THE COVER LETTER TO THE SOQ SHOULD INDICATE ANY CONFLICTS OR NON-ACCEPTABILITY OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTY'S STANDARD AGREEMENT. PROPOSED DEVIATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT SHALL BE NOTED AND SUPPORTING REASONS PROVIDED. THE COUNTY WILL NOT CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE AGREEMENT ONCE CONSULTANT SELECTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

3. Will the project avail itself of ONLY local Measure R funds, or is there any chance State or Federal funds could end up playing a role?

RESPONSE: CURRENTLY, THE PROJECT IS PROGRAMMED TO BE COMPLETELY FUNDED THROUGH MEASURE R FUNDS FOR THE DESIGN (PE), RIGHT-OF-WAY AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES.

4. Please confirm the intent of the topo in Task 2 is to perform a topographic survey that would contain ALL the data needed to support the engineering design work.

RESPONSE: CONFIRMED

5. Task 2 mentions ROW Appraisal Maps. Will the County handle the appraisals under a separate contract, or are they to be included in the response to this SOQ?

RESPONSE: THE APPRAISAL WILL BE PERFORMED UNDER A SEPARATE CONTRACT TO THE COUNTY.

6. Will this project include Caltrans oversight, or will it require an encroachment permit?

RESPONSE: THIS IS A COUNTY PROJECT, WHICH WILL REQUIRE AN ENCROACHMENT PERMIT TO PERFORM THE TRANSITION TO THE EXISTING INTERCHANGE, AND MAY INCLUDE SOME INTERIM INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS.

7. Please provide available Record Maps along the Avenue 280 between Akers Street and State Route 99?

RESPONSE: REFER TO "RECORD MAP" PDF.

8. The third paragraph under Section II. Project Description states "...The County anticipates that additional right of way width will be required than that identified in the environmental documents, and that an addendum may be required to the environmental documents." What specifically does the County anticipate to change from the environmental document that will necessitate additional right of way clearance?

RESPONSE: ADDITIONALLY RIGHT OF WAY WILL BE REQUIRED FOR A "UTILITY CORRIDOR," TO ACCOMMODATE FUTURE UTILITIES.

9. Section III Scope of Work, Task 2 mentions right-of-way acquisition support to include preparation of appraisal maps, right of way legal descriptions and exhibits, etc. Is the County going to contract separately for appraisal/acquisition services, perform them in-house, or should they be a part of the consultant team?

RESPONSE: THE COUNTY WILL CONTRACT SEPARATELY FOR APPRAISAL/ACQUISITION SERVICES.

10. Project Limits - Section II Project Description describes the project limits as between SR 99 and Akers Street, within the City of Visalia, yet Attachment A Vicinity Map illustrates the easterly project limits as being near the City/County Limit Line. Please confirm County's intent for easterly project limit.

RESPONSE: THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT WILL EXTEND TO AKERS STREET.

11. Does the County have any inspection records/maintenance reports for the culvert crossing of Shirk Street?

RESPONSE: NO.

12. What is the County's anticipated schedule for acquiring right of way for the improvement project?

RESPONSE: RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION IS ANTICIPATED TO BE COMPLETE BY APRIL 2016.

13. Task 6 – Environmental describes the need for preparing the Caltrans Standard Revalidation Form and conducting surveys to update old survey results and to clear any areas that are outside of the original survey area to support NEPA compliance (emphasis added). There is a potential that the CEQA document (EIR) may need to be updated and that either an Addendum or a Subsequent IS/MND may need to be prepared to address areas not previously addressed or any new impacts. Would Task 6 also include preparation of the additional CEQA document or should it be assumed that the County would determine that no subsequent environmental document needs to be prepared under Section 15162?

RESPONSE: IF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED FOR CEQA, IT WILL BE PREPARED BY THE COUNTY

14. As described in the various environmental documents, state and federal permits will be required to construct the project. Please clarify if the scope will include permit acquisition assistance to support the following additional permits: Section 404 Nationwide Permit No. 14 authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (including updating the 2010 wetland delineation that was done for the project); Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board; 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW); and a State Endangered Species Act consistency determination (if necessary) from CDFW for the state listed kit fox. The task would also include assisting the County in securing the required mitigation bank credits as described in the Natural Environment Study and USFWS Biological Opinion.

RESPONSE: REGULATORY AGENCY PERMITS WILL BE ACQUIRED BY THE COUNTY.

15. Task 10 – Design Support during Construction does not request assistance with environmental compliance efforts, including preconstruction surveys, agency notifications, environmental awareness training, on-site biological and paleontological monitoring in sensitive areas (as required in the EIR/EA), reporting, and post-construction documentation that will likely be required as part of the additional state and federal permits that will be issued for the project. Will the scope include environmental compliance services?

RESPONSE: THE CONSULTANT'S SCOPE SHOULD INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SERVICES.